PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WILMINGTON OH 556 PM EST THU DEC 24 2015

...UPDATED INFORMATION ON TORNADO NEAR FOUNTAIN CITY IN WAYNE COUNTY INDIANA...

LOCATION...NEAR FOUNTAIN CITY AND BETHEL IN WAYNE COUNTY INDIANA DATE...12/23/2015
ESTIMATED TIME...4:55 PM EST
MAXIMUM EF- SCALE RATING...EFO
ESTIMATED MAXIMUM WIND SPEED...77 MPH
MAXIMUM PATH WIDTH...30 YARDS
PATH LENGTH...3.25 MILES

- * FATALITIES...0
- * INJURIES...0
- * THE INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE PENDING FINAL REVIEW OF THE EVENT(S) AND PUBLICATION IN NWS STORM DATA.

...SUMMARY...

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN WILMINGTON OH HAS CONFIRMED A TORNADO NEAR FOUNTAIN CITY IN WAYNE COUNTY INDIANA ON 12/23/2015.

A STORM SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN NORTHEAST WAYNE COUNTY INDIANA...IN COORDINATION WITH WAYNE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY. DAMAGE BEGAN NEAR A PROPERTY ALONG EAST FOUNTAIN CITY PIKE EAST OF FOUNTAIN CITY...IN WHICH SEVERAL OUTBUILDINGS WERE DESTROYED. SOME OF THE DAMAGE FOLLOWING A SOUTHWEST TO NORTHEAST PATH...ALTHOUGH THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF ROTATION WITHIN THE DEBRIS PATTERN...WHICH WOULD COINCIDE WITH A WEAK TORNADO.

THE DAMAGE CONTINUED IN A NORTHEAST PATH AND CROSSED ELLIOTT ROAD AND CONTINUED NORTHEAST TO BETHEL.

ADDITIONAL OUTBUILDING DAMAGE WAS SURVEYED AT 2 PROPERTIES ALONG ELLIOTT ROAD...IN WHICH SMALL OUTBUILDINGS WERE DESTROYED AND THERE WAS ADDITIONAL DAMAGE TO LARGER BARNS. THE PATH CONTINUED NORTHEAST TO BETHEL...WHERE A CHIMNEY COLLAPSED AND ROOF DAMAGE OCCURRED AT A CHURCH IN BETHEL.

FOR REFERENCE...THE ENHANCED FUJITA SCALE CLASSIFIES TORNADOES INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

EFO...WIND SPEEDS 65 TO 85 MPH.

EF1...WIND SPEEDS 86 TO 110 MPH.

EF2...WIND SPEEDS 111 TO 135 MPH.

EF3...WIND SPEEDS 136 TO 165 MPH.

EF4...WIND SPEEDS 166 TO 200 MPH.

EF5...WIND SPEEDS GREATER THAN 200 MPH.

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JDR